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Federal Bureau of Investigation

MAR 6 1964

Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover Director

Enc.

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York February 27, 1964

Re: Heinrichs W. Bagatais
Also Known As

During the early part of 1963, NY T-1, another government agency which conducts security type investigations, advised that Heinrichs W. Bagatais, a former chairman in 1957, of Daugavas Vanagi (Latvian Veterans Organization), New York, New York, was suspected of Russian Intelligence Service involvement by an official German source.

Residence and Employment

On January 13, 1964, NY T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that Heinrichs Bagatais resides at 412 Cathedral Parkway, New York City, and has been employed by Theodore Luce Incorporated, 533 West 57th Street, New York City, as a watchman since July 9, 1963.

NY T-2 stated that Bagatais was born September 12, 1919, place of birth not known. NY T-2 further stated that Bagatais is not married.

On January 6, 1964, Mr. Edward L. Braune, Security Supervisor, New York Telephone Company, 4 Albany Street, New York 6, New York, made available records of this company to Special Agent James M. Anderson of the FBI which reflected the following information:

On September 13, 1963, telephone number MO 6-5438 was connected for Henry Bagatais, Apartment 122, 412 Cathedral Parkway, New York City. Records reflect that Bagatais is employed by Theodore Luce Incorporated, New York City. These records further indicate that Bagatais has a bank account with Bankers Trust Company located on 161st Street in New York City.

This document contains neither recommendations nor condusions of the PPI. It is the property of the PBI and is become to your fagency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside CS your agency.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and

declassification

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Heinrichs W. Bagatais

The above information furnished by Edward L. Braune is confidential and can be made public only upon the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

Background

On January 20, 1964, NY T-3, who is in a position to furnish information concerning Latvian emigres in the New York area, advised Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the following information:

NY T-3 first became acquainted with the subject during 1955 when Bagatais was Treasurer of Daugavas Vanagi. During the years 1955 to 1957, Bagatais was in frequent contact with the informant, however, after 1957, Bagatais ceased being active in Daugavas Vanagi and the informant has had no contact with him since that time.

NY T-3 advised that during the years 1955 to 1957, the subject was employed as a draftsman, place of employment not recalled, and he also reportedly was a building superintendent.

Informant heard that some time between 1958 and 1962, the subject was self-employed as a travel agent, obtaining lists of names of persons who would be interested in travelling from the United States to Latvia. He also collected fares for these trips to Latvia, which money was turned over to a travel agent by the subject. The name of this travel agent is not recalled by the informant, however, he had heard that Bagatais was very successful in this endeavor and as a result won an expense paid trip around the world. Bagatais went on this trip during 1962, and visited his mother who resides in Australia.

NY T-3 further stated that he suspects Bagatais of being a homosexual. He commented that Bagatais is a quiet individual who is a patron of Latvian art and is not married. NY T-3 stated that on one occasion while he was in the company of Bagatais the subject became over friendly and patted the informant on the seat of the pants. On a later occasion NY T-3 mentioned this incident to other persons acquainted with the subject and some of these persons told the informant that Bagatais reportedly is a homosexual and they had heard that he has several young boys living with him in his apartment.

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NY T-3 further advised that the subject has a brother who is an official in the State Farm Agency in Riga, Latvia. This brother, according to the informant, is a Communist Party (CP) member and Bagatais corresponds frequently with this brother.

The informant is of the opinion that the subject could easily be involved in Communist activities because of the fact that he reportedly is a homosexual and further because he is in frequent correspondence with his brother in Latvia, who is a CP member. He believed because of the reasons stated above that Bagatais could easily be blackmailed by the Soviets.

NY T-3 also stated that he had heard recently that the subject had approached Konstantin Cernoks, A353
46th Street, Brooklyn, New York, an invalid who is an artist, with the suggestion that ternoks and the subject open an art gallery in partnership. The subject indicated that he had \$3,000 to invest in such enterprise. Cernoks, although he is interested in opening an art gallery, did not accept the offer of the subject.

The informant stated that he was surprised that

The informant stated that he was surprised that the subject would have \$3,000 to invest in such a venture since during the time the informant was acquainted with Bagatais he had never been employed in a position which would pay a salary large enough to allow him to save this amount of money.



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